GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3928
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000
SOLUTION TO KASHMIR PROBLEM
RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `No peace till Kashmir resolved` appearing in the Hindustan Times dated December, 20, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a)-(c) Yes, Sir. Government have seen the report appearing in the Hindustan Times of 20.12.1999.

The increasingly strident statements made by Pakistan leaders underline Pakistan`s active encouragement and sponsorship of cross-border terrorism.

The entire State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian UnionA part of the territory of the State is under Pakistan`s illegal and forcible occupation. India is committed to resolve all outstanding issues with Pakistan in accordance with the Simla Agreement. Pakistan needs to demonstrate its adherence to the agreement through an abandonment of its cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and elsewhere in India and its hostile propaganda against India.

Government remains firm in their resolve to take all necessary measures to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.